

ABSTRACT

OPTICAL CONNECTOR

[0018] A small form factor (SSF) pluggable optical connector may be subject to wear damage when plugged and unplugged. A press-fit metal or ceramic sleeve is placed inside of the female receptacle to prevent the male portion of the connector, including a fiber optic tip, from making direct contact with the inner wall of the receptacle. Thus, the connector may be strengthened resulting in a connector that is more resistant to wear and further may prevent worn debris from fouling the tip of the optical fiber.